This edition of KAT/S Komputer Knews is a bit late that usual but as most people know, Spring and Summer months are a bit strained at least.

To catch up on the news of the club several interesting items have occured in the past month and as we all have heard by now Stan Lemke is now out of the Business part of producing programs for sale and has sent his part of Lemke Software Development into Public Domain Statis. He as sent it to the Major Computer Groups in the nation or those who have requested the software.

One of the things that this club has been pushing towards is to possiblly be is a regional Public Domain Software Distubitor. And to accomplish this task we have been moving towards several types of goals, of several have some what been accomplished in the past months.

Number one we have been accquiring a lot of PDL's from around the country. One section from VISTA and the other from ISTUG, these two are in my estimations two of the larger listings of PDL's ing the country. I have written to a lot of people and clubs but these are two of the major ones I keep hearing about ing computer newsletters most others have a collection of the orginial TIMEX SINCLAIR tapes.

The other items that we have been working on is the method of storage that is available to different clubs and users. One of these is my favorite the A&J MICRODRIVE system, but not most of the other persons in the club. Two other types of storage systems in the club are the OLIGER and the ARECO systems both fine systems and of course used all over the USA. But as one would expect there is other methods to the storage game.

After much asking of questions and reading the articles in many newsletters and of course articles in magazines that were borrowed from several fellow club members the method that I would use left me much comfused as to wheather or not to even purchase as system at all. Using all of the methods of trial and error as most of this type of decisions are made I relaxed for a month of two and just listed the problems and the pluses that the fellow computerists keep on comming up with but this was not a good method! All systems have their problems and pluses that is what makes each system its own individual system. Also we must not completely kid ourselves into a cornor on this issue. I have a few other things that influenced me but they are of another persons mishap and I thought that it might be a poing that I could and should consider in the process.

Anothere problem should not really influence a choice in such an item as an interface and drives! Mainly the function or ease of function should be the main consideration in such a purchase. Perhaps at this point I should say that one of the members had a bad mishap with his drives and interface and computer system and after much talking and checking we determined that the cause was in the drive that he was using at the time. Some of the other members tried not to influence me and even though we draw on each other for information in one way or the other they still get in their two cents worth.

Well to make a long story short the type of system that I choose is one that is going to fit into a slot all of its own. The name of the system is LARKEN SYSTEM. The statement I have just made is because of one major reason it makes this computer club having one of the main types of systems now, AERCO, OLIGER, and now LARKEN. This will enable each and every type of system to be capable of dispatching a disk of the PDL to any one who desires a copy of any of the programs that are in the PDL that I hope will expand from a very good start that I received from both ISTUG and VISTA Users Groups.

I have allready receive inquiry from a gentleman from TEXAS and informed him of the amount of PDL we have but have yet to receive his order as to wheather he wants to procure them from us or the orginators in VISTA in Washington State?

At this place I recon that a few words about the LARKEN system should be said. Initially when I purchased the system I figured that I would have a few problems but nothing compaired to this brief but perplexing problem. After waiting a few weeks it finally came, but during the removal of the protection from RMG I received a wound thru the protection to my right index finger, from a lead from one of the IC's which was quite the bleeder! After that I assembled the rest of the equipment as instructed in the paperwork. And following the instructions to the letter I failed to get it operational at all. I called RMG and from the indications I gave him he thought it might be the disk was at fault, but alas it wasn't. To make this story short after he sent another disk that fit my type of drives, It still wasn't the correct fix. I removed power from the system and proceeded as he instructed to clean each edge connector with an eraser, but he informed me that this is not the best way to do it just temporary type of thing. It turns out that the computer that I have been using for the LARKEN system has never had a single bit of hardware ever connected to the edge connector in its whole life, and after a good cleaning the system does function as advertised in all the articles. So a good program of preventative maintance is in order because he informed me will keep your system in good working order, and beleive me this little but informative chain of events have proven the fact.

Well anyway I hope this article will help others and of course the instution of the 3rd system into our club will help INPUT and OUTPUT to other clubs and to our own. Paul D. Reynolds
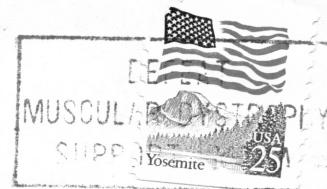KANSAS AREA TIMEX/SINCLAIR USERS GROUP KOMPUTER KNEWS  06-27-89

In addition to these UTILITIES that are availble to LARKEN users their is two other programs that interest me quite a bit. these are the MAXCOM this is a combination terminal/BBS package it can work with your 2050 modem or I-SIO RS232 port and any HAYES MODEM @ either 300 or 1200 BAUD. Other features include. Autodial.2068 or SPECTRUM MODES. XMODEM UP OR DOWN LOADS.Buffer size limited only by your own DISK size, plus many more features that makes it the most up to date and comprehensive telecommunications packages yet.

The other Main addition to your LARKEN LKDOS system is the SEQUENTIAL/RAMDOM ACCESS UTILITY PACKAGE. Features include standard keyboard commands. true random access to any record, opens up previously unused 2068 features, files limited by your disk drives. you can merge.files/records. and 4 files can be accessed at the same time.

The place to buy these items is RMG ENTERPRISE one of the best places I have found to get most of my TS2068 material. The price of the SEQUENTIAL/RAMDON ACCESS UTILITY PACKAGE is $15.00 plus $3.00 postage and handling. LARKEN MAXCOM lists for $25.00 plus $2.00 postage and handling. And if I didn't mention it your computer needs or requires LKDOS and DISK DRIVES.

I do have a small request from one of the OLIGER users in the club. after an afternoon of giving them a through demostration of the LKDOS system and utilities he asked if I have seen any utilities for the OLIGER system that compare to the LARKEN system utilities and my answer was no and if any one has a UTILITY collection that compares to either HURD OR CHAMBERS please forward their address to the clubs mailing address and I will forward it on. Well this concludes this BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER from KAT/S hopefully this won't happen to many times in the future but who knows.

This section of the newsletter is probably be the easist to write as compared to the first two pages. I can refer to printed material quite easily.

One of the problems as stated by other system users is the SYNTAX of the commands: ie RAND USR 100: is added to the regular command plus the extention of .A1 for arrays, .B1 for basic, .C1 for code. Of course each of the commands after the ":" is still the same or as is stataed in the manual. All variations of cassette commands are supported.

Of course the commands that aren't usually supported with the cassettes are CAT, ERASE, OPEN#, CLOSE#. FORMAT is not supported on the LKdos Cartridge but is supplied on cassette or disk what ever you receive on delivery or if you bought drives with your interface and LKdos cartridge.

After getting past a few of the problems encountered you may get to the main theme of the instructions and learning how to use the commands together and access the programs you use on a day to day basis.

One of the first programs I have encountered is DISK DOCTOR.B1 version 2.25 from the article in UPDATE. It uses the menu method to gain access to the program and back to the menu again for access to other programs you might have listed or use in conjunction with such as Larken LKDOS and of course CHAMBERS UTILITY DISK. Other programs are avaible such as HURE LKDOS UTILITIES, of which are and can be bought for a small fee because they are of the PUBLIC DOMAIN SOFTWARE that RMG ENTERPRISES distrubutes.

In addition to T/S errors use by LKDOS a number are added, ON-ERROR doesn't recognise thes extra errors they are listed below:
S-- PROTECT ERROR, T--FILE NOT FOUND, U--DISK FULL, V--WRONG FILE TYPE, W--INVALID COMMAND, X--CAT DATA ERROR,   --CRC ERROR (NUM)

Their are EXTENDED BASIC COMMANDS and consist of extended graphic, additional Print and I/O device Channels and up to 3 Scrolling windows on the screen. Indepth articles will be the menu for future articles and of course as I understand the system commands and LKDOS extended commands better.

Two of the best items listed are the PUSH BUTTON SAVES (NMI), and the AUTOSTART which can make a program either BASIC or MC to autorun when the computer is turned on if the Enter Key is held down.

The last thing that really gets to me is the SEQUENTIAL FILES section ing the LKDOS VERSION 3 EPROM I have tried this and it is possiblely be the best section in the whole manual and the features listed. Also noted is the Catalog of RMG ENTERPRISES has a listing of the program by Larry Kenny on SEQUENTIAL/RAMDOM ACCESS UTILITY PACKAGE. Definately the program to buy if you own the LARKEN DISK SYSTEM and version 3 LKDOS Cartridge.

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**REYNOLDS**
**4557 CHERRY**
**P. O. BOX 17579**
**WICHITA, KS 67217**

WICHITA, KS 672
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